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31st Night ◎ Red Wieners Once Again

AS ALWAYS, KOSUZU-SAN WAS SITTING NEXT TO RYUU-CHAN AT THE COUNTER WHEN HE STRUCK UP THIS CONVERSATION.

Shinya Shokudou
by Abe Yarou
A Village Idiot Scanlation

WHY IS IT THAT YOU LIKE RED WIENERS SO MUCH?

RYUU-CHAN, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU...

!?

NO REASON. I JUST LIKE THEM...

I SEE. WELL, I HOPE I HAVEN'T TOUCHED ON A SORE SPOT.

ボーン

SFX: DONNNG

NO, NOT REALLY...

THE "KATOU" HE SPEAKS OF IS A PITCHER WHO'S BROUGHT HIS TEAM 17 VICTORIES THIS SEASON ALONE.

THIS IS NAGAI-KUN, A SPORTS REPORTER.

MASTER, DID YOU HEAR? IT SEEMS THAT KATOU SHOUTA'S LEAVING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL AND IS COMING BACK HERE.

IS THAT TRUE?

EH!? UH... W-WELL, THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD, AT LEAST.

I DON'T REALLY KNOW. IT'S GOING TO BE ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY TOMORROW, THOUGH...

HOW COME?

.....

IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A SPUR OF THE MOMENT DECISION... PERHAPS IT'S TO DO WITH HIS WIFE'S ILLNESS...

MASTER, DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT YAKUZA FELLOW USED TO PLAY BASEBALL?

ONE WEEK LATER...

I SAW HIM AT THE BATTING CAGES THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, AND HE WAS PRETTY DAMN GOOD...

WHO? RYUU-CHAN!?

THE BALLS WERE BEING PITCHED AT AROUND 130 KM/H, BUT HE WAS JUST KNOCKING THEM AWAY ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

SFX: WHACK

... MAYBE HE PLAYED BASEBALL IN HIGH SCHOOL...

THAT REMINDS ME, WHEN HIS "LITTLE BROTHER" RYOU-CHAN SUGGESTED RUNNING A BETTING OPERATION ON HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL, RYUU-CHAN GOT MAJORLY PISSED OFF AND SAID THAT HE WOULDN'T TREAT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL IN SUCH A WAY...

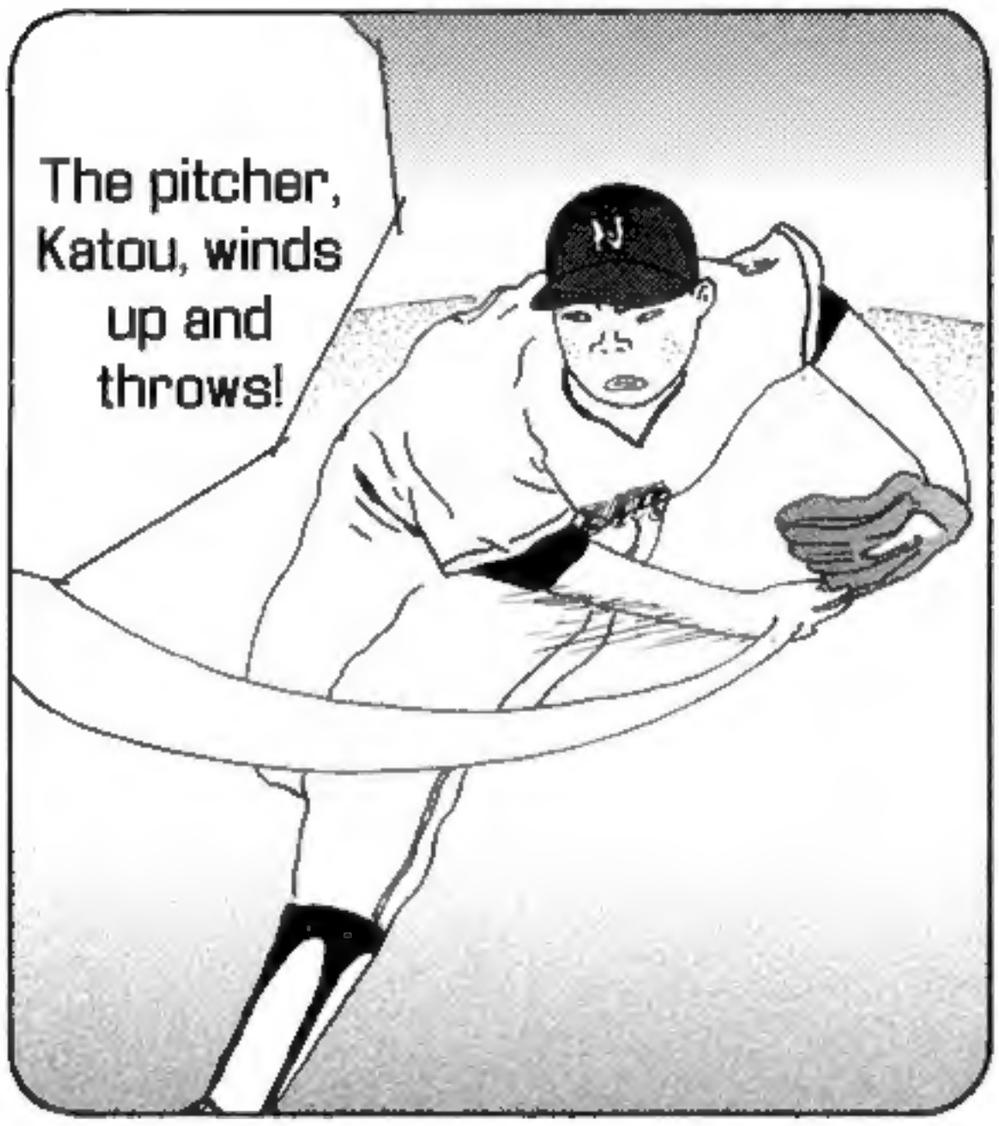
THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT...

HERE!

THANK YOU.

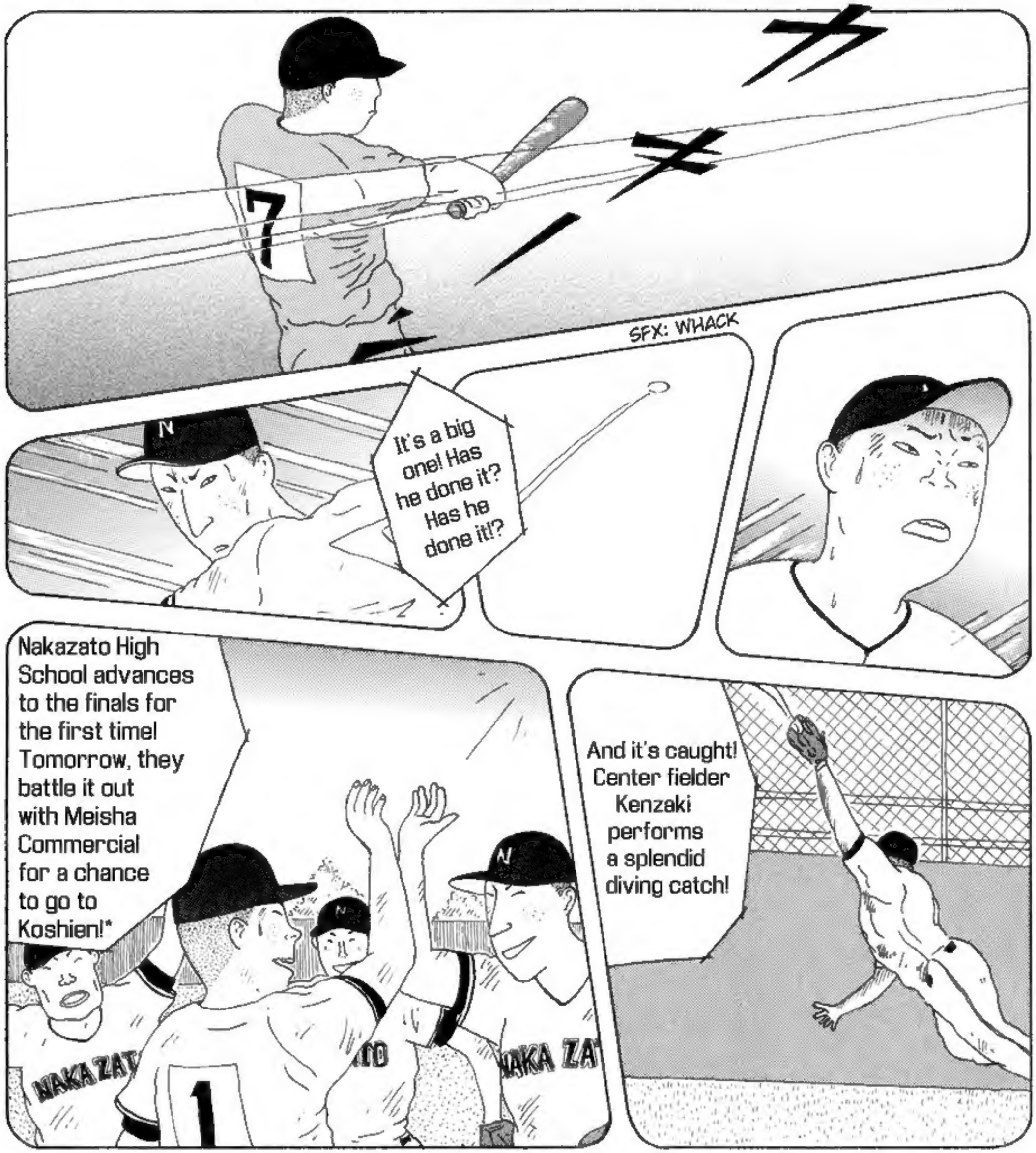
I BROUGHT YOU SOME SNACKS.

SFX: GRIN


The pitcher, Katou, winds up and throws!

.....

T/N: HANSHIN KOSHIEN STADIUM IS WHERE THE SPRING AND SUMMER NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COMPETITIONS ARE HELD, AND THE NAME KOSHIEN IS SYNONYMOUS WITH THESE EVENTS. TO QUALIFY, TEAMS MUST FIRST WIN THEIR REGIONAL TOURNAMENT, AND KOSHIEN IS PRETTY MUCH THE GOAL OF ANYONE WITH EVEN THE SLIGHTEST PROFESSIONAL ASPIRATIONS. COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOLS FOCUS MORE ON PREPARING STUDENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE WORK FORCE THAN HIGHER EDUCATION.


SFX: WHACK
It's a big one! Has he done it? Has he done it!?
Nakazato High School advances to the finals for the first time! Tomorrow, they battle it out with Meisha Commercial for a chance to go to Koshien!*
And it's caught! Center fielder Kenzaki performs a splendid diving catch!

THE GAME WAS DELAYED DUE TO RAIN, AND THE DAY BEFORE THE FINALS, NAKAZATO HIGH SCHOOL HAD TO WITHDRAW AS A RESULT OF A SCANDAL. IT APPEARS THAT ONE OF THE TEAM MEMBERS WAS INVOLVED IN A HUGE BRAWL WITH THE LOCAL DELINQUENTS.

THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT...

AND WHAT ABOUT KOSHIEN?

THE USUAL.

WELCOME.

SFX: GULP

SFX: CLATTER

... IS THAT SO.

S-SO, UM... APPARENTLY KATOU SHOUTA'S GONNA BE JOINING RAKUTEN*.

T/N: THE TOHOKU RAKUTEN GOLDEN EAGLES, A TOP TIER PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM.

!? I-IT'S KATOU...

WELCOME.

KENZAKI... YOU SHOULD GO SEE KUMI.

I SEE YOU'VE STILL GOT A THING FOR OCTOPUS WIENERS!

HER BODY'S GOTTEN BETTER, BUT HER HEART... SHE SAID SHE WANTS TO MEET YOU SO SHE CAN APOLOGIZE...

... HOW IS SHE?

YOU NEVER WOULD HAVE TANGLED WITH THE DELINQUENTS, AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL.

LATELY, SHE'S ALWAYS WONDERING... WHAT IT'D BE LIKE IF SHE HADN'T ASKED YOU TO GO OUT...

... I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED... HOW MUCH SHE SUFFERED BECAUSE OF ME...

SHE THINKS IT'S ALL HER FAULT BECAUSE YOU HAD TO PROTECT HER.

REMEMBER THAT TELEGRAM YOU SENT WHEN KUMI AND I GOT MARRIED? IT MADE HER INCREDIBLY HAPPY... SO C'MON, AT LEAST GO SEE HER JUST ONCE.

NAH, IT'S ONLY BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN BROODING RECENTLY THAT SHE'S REMEMBERING ALL KINDS OF BAD STUFF...

.....

YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE! DEEP DOWN, YOU'RE STILL THE SAME GUY FROM BACK THEN... I MEAN, LOOK, EVEN NOW YOU'RE STILL EATING THOSE, AREN'T YOU?

... I'D ONLY CAUSE HER MORE PAIN.

T/N: SPRING KOSHIEN HAS A "21ST CENTURY QUOTA" THAT ALLOWS THREE WILDCARD ENTRIES TO BE GIVEN TO WEAK OR MODEL TEAMS THAT NORMALLY WOULDN'T QUALIFY FOR KOSHIEN.

DID YOU KNOW THAT NAKAZATO HIGH HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A WILDCARD ENTRY FOR SPRING KOSHIEN?
!? ... YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT...?
ERM... SORRY TO BOTHER YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR DISCUSSION, BUT THE TWO OF YOU WERE PART OF THE NAKAZATO HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM, RIGHT?
IT SHOULD BE OUT IN THE NEWSPAPERS TOMORROW. CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST APPEARANCE AT KOSHIEN.
EH!?
THAT'S GREAT... AIN'T THAT RIGHT, KENZAKI...?
... I SEE, HA HA HA...
KATOU SHOUTA'S WIFE SEEMS TO HAVE GOTTEN A LITTLE BIT BETTER AFTER THAT, BUT I HEAR THAT RYUU-CHAN HAS YET TO GO SEE HER...
HOW WONDERFUL... I'M SURE KUMI WILL BE PLEASED AS WELL...
NAKAZATO
KAZATO

6 YEARS OF viscans

village idiot scanlations

Admins

Azuma, Cloud04, Iruyily, Purr-Nyan, Usha

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THANK YOU FOR ALL THE SUPPORT!